

NORFOLK MAN CHARGED WITH SEXUAL ASSAULT ON TEENAGE BOY SCOUT
VIRGINIAN-PILOT (Norfolk, VA) (VP) - Saturday, April 24, 1993
By: Joe Jackson, Staff writer
Edition: FINAL Section: LOCAL Page: D4
Word Count: 401

TEXT:

NORFOLK - Police on Friday charged a 49-year-old Norfolk man with the repeated sexual assaults of a Boy Scout in his troop.

Michael Pitz, of [REDACTED], was charged with two counts of sodomy, two counts of aggravated sexual battery and one count of taking indecent liberties with a minor, police said.

The victim, now 17, told police that he was molested by Pitz several times between January 1991 and August 1992. The boy, who was 15 and 16 at the times of the alleged assaults, was a member of a Boy Scout troop in which Pitz served as assistant troop leader, police said.

The troop met in a building at the intersection of 9th Bay Street and East Ocean View Avenue, police said. Detectives were investigating Friday whether any other Boy Scouts were involved.

Pitz - who was disabled by a spinal injury in the mid-1980s - is no longer a Scout leader, police said. He was relieved of his duties in 1992 due to an infraction, but detectives did not have further details on Friday.

Pitz was convicted in 1978 of sodomizing a 10-year-old boy in Prince George's County, Md., court records show. He was sent to prison, then released on parole. His parole expired in 1982, police said.

Police did not know Friday when Pitz came to South Hampton Roads or when he started working as a volunteer leader with the Tidewater Council Boy Scouts of America.

More cases of child sexual abuse involving Boy Scouts have been reported since the mid-1980s in the local Scout council than anywhere else in Virginia, Scout officials have said.

Since 1984, five men connected with the Tidewater Council Boy Scouts of America have been accused of molesting 73 Scouts, say police and court records and stories published in The Virginian-Pilot and The Ledger-Star.

The men were eventually charged with 61 felony counts of sexual battery, taking indecent liberties and sodomy. Not all of the boys' parents filed criminal charges.

Scouts tend to be more vulnerable to child molesters in Hampton Roads than elsewhere in the state because of the area's transient population, police and Scout leaders have said.

Pitz is being held in lieu of \$50,000 bond, pending an arraignment in General District Court on Monday. The case is being handled by investigators Gary Ingram and Larry Hockman of the sexual assault division.

DIALOG File 741: VIRG.-PILOT_1990 - 26 Apr 1993 (c)1993 Landmark Communica-

Record - 1

<DIALOG File 741: (c)1993 Landmark Communications, Inc.>
07093087
EX-SCOUT LEADER SENTENCED
VIRGINIAN-PILOT (Norfolk, VA) (VP) - Saturday, April 3, 1993
Edition: FINAL Section: LOCAL Page: D4
Word Count: 142

TEXT:

NORFOLK - A former Boy Scout camp director was sentenced Friday to 10 years in prison, eight of which were suspended, for sodomizing a 15-year-old Scout in late 1991 and early 1992.

The sentencing in Circuit Court was the last of three for Rodney A. Almond, 33, former director of Camp Pipsico in Surry County. He pleaded guilty to child molestation charges in Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Surry. All charges involved the same juvenile.

Earlier this year, Almond was sentenced to 8 1/2 years in Virginia Beach. The Norfolk sentence will run consecutive to that. He received a suspended six-year sentence in Surry last year.

The sentence imposed Friday requires Almond to serve a period of supervised probation and to receive counseling and therapy. It also prohibits him from having any contact with the victim or with minors without adult supervision.

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DESCRIPTORS: SEX CRIME; CHILD MOLESTER

Record - 2

<DIALOG File 741: (c)1993 Landmark Communications, Inc.>
06782090
SENTENCE SUSPENDED IN SODOMY CASE
VIRGINIAN-PILOT (Norfolk, VA) (VP) - THURSDAY October 8, 1992
Edition: FINAL Section: LOCAL Page: D5
Word Count: 176

TEXT:

SURRY COUNTY - A former Boy Scout camp director who was found guilty in August of sodomy and contributing to the delinquency of a minor was given a six-year suspended sentence Wednesday in Circuit Court.

Rodney A. Almond, 33, former director of Camp Pipsico in Surry County, pleaded guilty Aug. 25.

He was charged with molesting a Boy Scout.

This was the first of three sentencings that Almond faces between Wednesday and Nov. 20. The other hearings are in Virginia Beach and Norfolk. The same Scout, then 15, was involved in all three cases.

In Virginia Beach, Almond pleaded guilty Aug. 30 to two felony counts of crimes against nature. He will be sentenced Oct. 13.

(cont'd next page)

DIALOG File 741: VIRG.-PILOT_1990 - 26 Apr 1993 (c)1993 Landmark Communica-

In Norfolk, he pleaded guilty Sept. 29 to two felony counts of sodomy. A third sodomy charge was dismissed as part of a plea agreement. He will be sentenced Nov. 20.

In both cases, he will face up to 10 years in prison and \$5,000 in fines.

Almond remains free on bail. He is living with his mother in New London, N.C.

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DESCRIPTORS: CHILD MOLESTER SEX CRIME ARREST BOY SCOUTS; TRIAL SENTENCING

Record - 3

<DIALOG File 741: (c)1993 Landmark Communications, Inc.>
06774088
SCOUT LEADER PLEADS GUILTY TO SEXUALLY ASSAULTING TEEN
VIRGINIAN-PILOT (Norfolk, VA) (VP) - WEDNESDAY September 30, 1992
By: Joe Jackson, Staff writer
Edition: FINAL Section: LOCAL Page: D4
Word Count: 345

TEXT:

NORFOLK - A former Boy Scout camp director pleaded guilty in Circuit Court on Tuesday to two counts of sodomizing a 15-year-old Scout in November and January.

Rodney A. Almond, 33, former director of Camp Pipsico in Surry County, pleaded guilty to two felony counts of sodomy. A third sodomy charge was dismissed as part of a plea agreement.

He faces up to 10 years in prison and \$5,000 in fines when he is sentenced Nov. 20.

Almond entered what is called an Alford plea, maintaining innocence while acknowledging that the evidence against him is strong enough that a judge or jury would probably find him guilty.

Judge Lydia C. Taylor told Almond that this type of plea could work against him.

"I'm always troubled with Alford pleas in drug and sexual assault cases," the judge said.

Many times, plea agreements are made in hopes that the defendant will receive a suspended sentence and probation, Taylor continued. Yet in sex and drug offenses, probation is sometimes linked to counseling.

"These sex offenders who do not admit their guilt are in denial . . . yet for the treatment to be effective, the offender must admit their guilt," Taylor said. "Do you understand that?"

"Yes," Almond answered.

Tuesday's conviction was the third set of child molestation charges since August to which Almond pleaded guilty. The others were in Surry County and Virginia Beach.

(cont'd next page)

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The same Scout, now 16, was involved in all three cases. The Norfolk offenses took place at Almond's former residence in the 9400 block of Mason Creek Road.

On Aug. 25, Almond pleaded guilty to sodomy and contributing to the delinquency of a minor in Surry County. He will be sentenced there on Oct. 7.

On Aug. 30, Almond pleaded guilty in Virginia Beach to two felony counts of crimes against nature. He will face up to 10 years in prison when he is sentenced Oct. 13.

Almond remains free on bail. He is living with his mother in New London, N.C.

CAPTION:

Photo Rodney A. Almond Faces up to 10 years in prison

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DESCRIPTORS: SEX CRIME; CHILD MOLESTER BOY SCOUTS ARREST TRIAL TESTIMONY

Record - 4

<DIALOG File 741: (c)1993 Landmark Communications, Inc.>

06583057

SCOUTING SYSTEM IS FAULTED IN SEX ABUSE RECORDS SAY LEADERS CAN BE SLOW TO REACT

VIRGINIAN-PILOT (Norfolk, VA) (VP) - MONDAY March 23, 1992

By: Joe Jackson, Staff writer

Edition: FINAL Section: FRONT Page: A1

Word Count: 2,303

MEMO:

MORE ON THE SCOUTS Related stories on page A5.

More cases of child sexual abuse involving Boy Scouts have been reported since the mid-1980s in the local Scout council than anywhere else in Virginia, Scout officials said.

List of steps involved in starting a Cub Scout pack, Boy Scout troop or Explorer post, and picking a leader.

TEXT:

To some parents of Boy Scouts who have been molested by their leaders, the local council and the organizations sponsoring Scout troops have not been as trustworthy as Scout Law decrees.

In two cases in which Scout leaders were convicted of child sexual abuse, either the Tidewater Council or the sponsoring organization or both had warning of molestation. Yet they chose not to dismiss the leader before police filed charges, court records show.

The council also did not check police records of a Virginia Beach leader who was charged in 1979 with sodomy. Eight years later, the leader, Eric "Ricky" Avant, was charged with molesting eight boys, ages 9 to 13.

Two lawsuits claiming millions of dollars in damages from the Boy Scouts and the sponsors resulted from these cases.

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One case - which sought \$240 million in damages for boys molested by a 69-year-old Scout leader, Arthur W. Humphries - was settled out of court in 1986 for an undisclosed amount. The second case - filed by the parents of three boys molested by Avant - seeks \$30 million from the Boy Scouts and the sponsor, a Mormon church in Virginia Beach.

Now similar allegations of the council's lack of vigilance have surfaced in the case of Rodney Almond, the former Scout-camp director who is accused of molesting two Scouts and is charged with 10 counts of sodomy, sexual battery and taking indecent liberties.

Almond, 33, will also be charged with at least four counts of sodomy and taking indecent liberties in Surry County, said sheriff's Deputy Burritt A. Kyttle.

Authorities say Almond assaulted a 15-year-old Scout at Camp Pipsico, the 900-acre camp in Surry County that Almond was hired to oversee. The assaults occurred on July 19 and sometime during the second or third week of August, Kyttle said.

Almond, who is free on bail, has denied all allegations.

At issue is the question of the council's responsibility to boys, parents and police say. How quickly should the council dismiss a leader, and on what basis?

Almond does not have a police record, and until last summer the council had no inkling that he might be a pedophile, police said. But then, in July and August, two people alerted Scout officials that Almond had acted suspiciously around boys at Camp Pipsico.

The whistle-blowers did not call Almond a pedophile, police said. Instead, they warned that he was violating tenets of the Youth Protection Guidelines, a program developed by the Scouts to prevent sexual abuse within its ranks.

Almond specifically violated the "Two Deep" rule, which says that a Scout must never be under the supervision of only one adult. Witnesses told police that they had seen Almond with his arms around boys at the camp and that once a boy spent the night in Almond's cabin.

But only one complaint reached the council - and that simply indicated that Almond was showing favoritism to certain boys, said Paul R. Moore, Virginia director for the National Council. A Scout executive drove to the camp the next day and spoke with Almond.

Yet the mother of a Scout who attended the camp and was aware of the rumors told police that there was a lot of apprehension among Scouts and parents because of Almond's violations of the guidelines. No one said "pedophilia," because there was no proof, and the allegation would have ruined Almond's career, she said.

Even if Almond had been called a pedophile, the Scouts are not required to report such allegations to police or Social Services, Norfolk prosecutors said. The Scouts are not included in Virginia State Code 63.1-248.3, which specifies who must report child abuse.

Yet under the Scouts' own Youth Protection Guidelines, council executives are supposed to react swiftly at the slightest hint of danger to boys. The guidelines were adopted in the 1980s after Scouts acknowledged

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that their organization was being targeted by pedophiles.

'We remove people from leadership as soon as there is an indication of a problem,' said Blake Lewis, spokesman for the organization's National Council, in Texas. 'There's no requirement in the Boy Scouts that you're innocent until proven guilty. Our first responsibility is to the young people.'

Yet court records say the council and some sponsors have not been as responsible as they promised. In the Almond case, police in Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Surry County are still investigating how much the council knew - and when.

Arthur Humphries, known locally as 'Mr. Scout,' was a Scout leader from 1933 until 1984, when he was arrested and charged. He had won every Scouting award possible, including a presidential citation for his work with handicapped children at Kirk-Cone Rehabilitation Center in Chesapeake, which sponsored Troop 472. In December 1972, Humphries became that troop's Scoutmaster.

Between 1972 and May 1978, Kirk-Cone's principal became suspicious of relations between Humphries and a Scout and told the boy's parents. But the boy stayed in the troop, and the council was not alerted.

Then, in May 1978, Council Executive Jack Terwilliger was told by a volunteer leader that Humphries had molested another Scout. Terwilliger asked another Scout official, Douglas Robol, to investigate.

Robol met with the boy and his parents on May 10, 1978. Chesapeake Detective Dennis Midgette Jr. was also there. The boy's statement was signed by the boy, his father, Robol and Midgette.

In the statement, the boy said that July 10-16, 1977, he was sodomized twice by Humphries while his troop stayed at Camp Pipeico. He was assaulted once in a latrine and once in the woods 'when we went to study a merit badge,' the boy said.

The boy also said that on Sept. 3, 1977, he was sodomized by Humphries in the Scout leader's bedroom.

The boy's father refused to press charges, and Midgette never issued a warrant based on the boy's statement, court records show. At the end of the boy's statement, Robol wrote: 'I, Douglas Robol, do promise that this statement will not be used in a courtroom or as an official complaint to the police.'

On June 1, 1978, Robol forwarded the statement to at least one other Scout leader.

Kirk-Cone's principal later called the boy 'a manipulator,' court records in the lawsuit show. The matter was dropped, and Humphries, who was never confronted with the boy's accusation, remained Scout leader of Troop 472.

On May 18, 1983, a teacher assistant at what was then Crestwood Elementary School in Chesapeake reported that Humphries - who worked with a troop sponsored by that school - might be a pedophile. Humphries was banned from entering Crestwood, but he remained Scout leader at Kirk-Cone.

On May 22, 1984, Humphries - then 69 - was arrested by Chesapeake

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police on sodomy and pornography charges. He would eventually plead guilty to 31 charges of molesting 20 Scouts, ages 8 to 17. Many of his victims were members of Troop 472.

Eric "Ricky" Avant had a sordid past. On March 19, 1979, he was charged in Virginia Beach with having carnal knowledge of an 11-year-old boy he was baby-sitting. The charge was reduced in a plea agreement to contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Avant, then about 20, was given a suspended jail sentence and ordered to seek counseling.

By 1985, he had begun attending a Mormon church in Virginia Beach. He was baptized and became a Sunday school teacher. In his class, "he excluded all female students. . . retaining only male students," court records said.

About the same time, he took over the leadership of a Cub Scout pack sponsored by the church. When the church forwarded his application to the council, Avant's name did not show up in the National Council's "confidential list" of pedophiles. But the council did not run a police check and so did not spot Avant's sodomy charge.

According to Moore, the Virginia director, it is almost logistically impossible for the Scouts to run criminal checks on every volunteer. With nearly 40,000 volunteers in the state and 1.1 million in the nation - and with an annual turnover of about 500,000 volunteers - "you are talking a phenomenal amount of numbers," he said.

The plaintiffs in the \$30 million civil suit claim, however, that given the number of Scouts who have been victimized by pedophiles across the nation, the council is obliged to run criminal checks on potential leaders.

Before Avant's arrest, "a parent and member of the church became aware" that Avant had abused their child, court records said. "Avant was told that if he sought help for his problems, the parent would not report the incident to police. Avant was advised to seek out help through the Bishop's office, which he did."

In time, several church officials and parents were aware of Avant's prior conviction and problem, but Avant still remained leader of the Cub Scout pack. Court records do not indicate that the council was ever told of what the church members and parents had learned.

Church and Scout officials would not comment on the case, pending a trial this summer.

According to a Social Services report, Avant was well-liked. "Many children have been interviewed, and the children all told similar stories," the caseworker wrote. "Ricky has worked his way into the family, and the family has trusted him and allowed him to escort their son to different places," such as swimming lessons, where the molestation occurred.

The abuse came to light when one boy told his mother.

Avant, then 28, was arrested on Aug. 24, 1987 - two years after the molestations began. Parents and police eventually compiled a list of 41 boys he had molested. But Avant was charged only with molesting eight boys. In 1988, he was sentenced to 26 years in prison.

It's tragic that pillars of our society like the Boy Scouts have this

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kind of problem," said Andrew M. Sacks, the attorney for parents in both cases. "But they (the Scouts) have acknowledged that pedophilia is a national problem. They are obliged to do all they can to protect the boys. It's a matter of trust."

Moore, the Virginia director, said, "It's all so sad. . . and scary. This is a societal problem, hitting all organizations, not just the Boy Scouts. The problem is so difficult to treat. . . yet there's so little treatment for pedophiles, even in prison - and then they come out again."

"We are dependent on people letting us know about their suspicions," Moore said. "That's the only way anything can be done."

CAPTION:

Graphic with photos of Humphries, Almond, and Belsha CRIMINAL CASES

Criminal cases involving the local Boy Scout council include:

Arthur W. Humphries, a 69-year-old leader who earned two presidential leadership citations, pleaded guilty in November 1984 to 31 charges of sexually assaulting 20 Scouts, ages 8 to 17. He was sentenced to 151 years in prison and died behind bars in 1986.

Humphries assaulted the boys from 1972 until 1984, when he was arrested. Most of the assaults occurred in his Chesapeake home; he had invited boys there for craft counseling. He was charged with sexual battery, sodomy and producing pornography.

In 1985, the families of 13 of the victims filed a negligence suit against the Boy Scouts in U.S. District Court. They claimed \$240 million in damages. The suit was settled out of court in 1986 for an undisclosed amount.

Keith M. Gardner, then 20, pleaded guilty in March 1985 to three charges of sexually assaulting nine Scouts, ages 9 to 14. He was sentenced to 16 years in prison.

Gardner, a former Scout, testified that Humphries blackmailed him into abusing the boys and that the crimes occurred in Humphries' home from 1982 to 1985. Gardner was 11 years old when he met Humphries.

The next year, Humphries assaulted him and photographed him having sex with other boys, Gardner testified.

When Gardner turned 18, Humphries threatened to release the pornographic photos to the newspaper if he did not sodomize other boys.

"I hated myself," Gardner testified.

Eric "Ricky" Avant, then 28, was accused by parents and police of molesting 41 boys who belonged to a Cub Scout pack sponsored by a Mormon church in Virginia Beach. He was charged with molesting eight boys, ages 9 to 13.

In March 1988, he was sentenced to 26 years in prison. He was a computer operator who taught Sunday school at the church.

Parents of three of the boys have filed a negligence suit against the Boy Scouts and the Mormon church in Virginia Beach Circuit Court, claiming \$30 million in damages. Those cases are scheduled to be heard this summer.

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DIALOG File 741: VIRG.-PILOT_1990 - 26 Apr 1993 (c)1993 Landmark Communica-

Rodney Almond, a 33-year-old camp director whom the council hired in October 1990, was charged this month with molesting two Scouts - ages 14 and 15 - in Norfolk and Virginia Beach. He was charged with 10 counts of sodomy, sexual battery and taking indecent liberties. Detectives also believe that Almond molested boys at Camp Pipsico, a 900-acre Scout camp on the James River; charges are pending in Surry County.

Almond, who is free on bail, has denied all allegations.

James Belsha, a 20-year-old assistant troop leader, was accused this month of molesting a 14-year-old whom police said Almond also abused. Detectives do not believe that Almond and Belsha acted together.

Belsha was charged with two counts of sodomy and one count of taking indecent liberties. He has been released on bail.

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DESCRIPTORS: CHILD MOLESTER; SEX CRIME; BOY SCOUT; LEADER; TIDEWATER
COUNCIL

Ineligible Volunteer Record Sheet

REGISTRATION SERVICE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Date

Full name Michael T. Pitz Social Security no.

Address

City Norfolk State VA ZIP code 23510

Date of birth 2/6/44 (This is important, it should be exact.)

Approximate age (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known.)

Religion Nationality (citizen of)

Occupation

Education

Weight Height Race Color of hair Color of eyes

Distinguishing physical characteristics

Hobbies or special interests

Married ☐ Single ☒ Name of spouse

Children: Number Names and ages

SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

Unit no.	City	State	Position	Date registered	Date resigned
<u>S-0333</u>	<u>Norfolk</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>ASM</u>	<u>02/91</u>	
<u>#181260</u>					

Chartered organization Ocean View Baptist Church

Special recognitions

Incident: Type 1, 2, 3 Date Resolution

Type

Resolution

1. Scouting related
2. Not Scouting related
3. Homosexual (not specifically involving youth)

1. Internal (only BSA members know)
2. Criminal action
3. Court action
4. Probationary status
5. Reported to state agency

Check-off list of attached documentation

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Description of incident | 5. Offender's statement |
| 2. Statement by victim(s) | 6. Official notification of termination |
| 3. Media reports | 7. Found guilty/innocent by court |
| 4. Legal proceedings | |

Council Tidewater #591

NOTED

Signed

Scout executive

5/28/91

CONFIDENTIAL

JN 7 1991

F. STARON

JUL 12 1991
JOSEPH L. ANGLIM

July 17, 1991

Mr. W. Robert Cree
Scout Executive
Tidewater Council, No. 596

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: MICHAEL T. PITZ

Dear Bob:

Thank you for the detailed information sent concerning the above Scouter.
This case has been reviewed with our attorney and is now on our permanent
Ineligible Volunteer File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director
Registration and Statistical Service

eko

cc: James D. Wilson, Southeast Region

READY FOR FILE
JUL 17 1991
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF025832



TIDEWATER COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

1032 Heatherwood Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455-6675
(804) 497-2688
FAX (804) 473-3305

May 28, 1991

Mr. Paul Ernst
Director of Registration Service
Boy Scouts of America
1325 Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Dear Paul:

Attached is information relating to Michael T. Pitz who is currently registered as an Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 333 of the Tidewater Council. Based on the information we have, I am requesting that he be placed on the Ineligible Volunteer file.

Sincerely,

Bob Cree
Scout Executive

BC/llb

cc: Jim Wilson
Paul Moore

*Added to IV file
deleted reg
Not on NECA file
6/8/91
cm*



NAME
Michael T. Pitz

BASIC PROBLEM
Homosexual, Poor Judgement
Indecent exposure

FINAL RESULTS

5/13/91

Michael Smith reported that he had received a phone call from Lois MacPhee [REDACTED] who managed the apartments where Pitz resides. She reported that she had passed by Pitz's apartment at 1 AM on Sunday morning and had observed one boy tied up on the floor, another tied up on the couch and another boy standing by smoking.

5/14/91

Cree phoned Lois MacPhee who again stated the information provided Smith. She also added that Pitz is a known homosexual and had another gay residing with him for some time. She said that she had reported the matter to Mr. Dave Thacker [REDACTED] of the Norfolk Police Department and they were investigating a matter of indecent exposure which took place in the area a few days earlier and involved Pitz. Cree asked her to let him know if any new developments took place. MacPhee reported that she had informed the Ocean View Baptist Church and Hansel Price the unit leader of the problem. She also reported that Pitz had a long criminal record which possibly involved child abuse.

5/14/91

Cree phoned police officer Dave Thacker who was not allowed to provide details of Pitz's criminal record but suggested that Pitz be required to provide it to the Council if Pitz was to be considered for future involvement. Officer Thacker personally had concerns with Pitz being involved with the Boy Scouts of America and thought that he should not be a volunteer leader.

5/15/91

Cree faxed Assistant Regional Director Jim Wilson a note indicating that Cree planned to suspend Pitz unless Wilson thought otherwise. The Tidewater Council's Legal Counsel is not available to review the case due to surgery. However, Cree felt that the facts required that Pitz be suspended.

5/15/91

Wilson called Cree and reviewed the case. He agreed with Cree's decision to deny membership to Pitz. Cree prepared the letter of denial and will have it delivered to Pitz.

5/16/91

Hansel Price, SM of Troop 333, prepared and delivered a statement regarding the problem to David Davies, Director of Support Services.

5/17/91

Mike Smith tried to locate Pitz so that the denial letter could be hand delivered. He found that Pitz is not employed according to information received. Pitz's phone has been disconnected.

5/20/91

In view of the problem in locating Pitz, the denial letter is being sent registered mail with a return requested.

5/20/91

Smith contacted Bill Davis [REDACTED], pastor of the Ocean View Baptist Church, and informed him that Pitz was no longer involved in Scouting. The pastor thanked Smith for letting him know.

CONF025834

At approximately 9 A.M. Sunday, May 12, Bill Willis, Scouting Chairman for the East Ocean View Baptist Church, called Scoutmaster Hansel M. "Doc" Price stating he had just received a phone call about Assistant Scoutmaster Mike Pitz. Bill requested that Doc come to the church as soon as possible. He said the information could be damaging to the scout program at the church.

On arrival at the church, Doc was told that several scouts had spent the night at Mike's home. He was also told that the boys had been rowdy. When the noise did not let up by about 1 A.M. Sunday morning, neighbors called the landlady, Mrs. MacPhee. She arrived at the apartments to find out what was going on about 1:30 A.M. She says when she came to Mike's apartment, she looked in to find a boy tied hand and foot laying in the middle of the living room floor. Two other boys sat on the couch. Mike was also there with his room-mate, [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is also the father of one of the boys who spent the night. Mrs. MacPhee complained about the noise and called the police. The following morning, Mrs. MacPhee called the church and talked to Bill.

Based on the information he had received Doc Price and Bill Willis went to talk to Mike Pitz. They arrived at his apartment about 9:30 A.M. Sunday morning. Doc had also telephoned Mrs. MacPhee, who repeated what she said to Bill Willis. She also said she knew Mike Pitz as a tenant in two other apartment buildings. She said she moved him to his present apartment after he was accused of indecent exposure by another tenant at [REDACTED]. This incident allegedly occurred about a year ago. The tenant did not prefer criminal charges against Mike Pitz. Mrs. MacPhee also said that Mike was living with a known homosexual named [REDACTED]. The time period was December, 1989 to June, 1990.

When Doc and Bill arrived at Mike's apartment, they found the three scouts still there. There was a pile of rope laying in the middle of the living room floor. The boys were asked to leave and waited outside the apartment. Doc reminded Mike that he had been forbidden to have scouts stay overnight at his apartment. He was also reprimanded for telling the landlady that the overnight was part of a scout activity. It was not. Mike denied that he had lived with anyone named [REDACTED] and said he did not know him. Doc informed him that he felt he had no choice but to suspend Mike from having anything more to do with the scout program at the church until the police and scout office investigated the incident and his past record. Mike was told he was being suspended for misconduct and poor judgement.

Doc Price met with Mrs. MacPhee again Monday morning at the church. She repeated what she had said before. She added that she would attempt to get the lady who accused Mike Pitz of indecent exposure to file charges against him. She also said she would start the paper work to get Mike evicted. She said he was also behind in his rent. She could not believe Mike's application as a Scout Leader cleared the Scout office. Her phone number is [REDACTED]. The police detective she says is looking into the incident is Detective Evans. His number is [REDACTED].

The scouts and scout leaders have only been informed that Mike Pitz is no longer with the troop. The scouts involved in the incident have been asked not to see him until this matter is resolved. They claim that nothing happened Saturday night and do not understand why we are blaming Mike. The scout office has already been asked to recheck Mike Pitz's past record. This request was made by Doc Price through Dave Davies before this incident.



TIDEWATER COUNCIL
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

1032 Heatherwood Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455-6675
(804) 497-2688
FAX (804) 473-3305

May 15, 1991

Mr. Michael T. Pitz

Norfolk, VA 23510

Dear Pitz:

After careful review, we have decided that your registration with the Boy Scouts of America should be denied. We are therefore compelled to request that you sever any relations that you may have with the Boy Scouts of America. A refund of your registration fee is enclosed.

You should understand that BSA membership registration is a privilege and is not automatically granted to everyone who applies. We reserve the right to refuse registration whenever there is a concern that an individual may not meet the high standards of membership which the BSA seeks.

If you wish to have this decision reviewed by a BSA regional review committee, please write to the regional director within 60 days of the date of this letter, explaining your version of the facts supporting your claim that your registration as a BSA member should be granted. The procedures for a review of this decision are attached.

Sincerely yours,

W. Robert Cree
Council Executive

BC/llb

Enc.



Certified Agency

United Way
of South Hampton Roads

CONF025836

MS08

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT SYSTEM

06/07/91

MEMBER DELETE

07:32:54

CNCL 596 PRG/UNIT 50333 SEQ. 081260

FIRST: MICHAEL T

LAST : FITZ

ADDR1:

ADDR2: NORFOLK

VA

ADDR3:

ADDR4:

ZIP: 23510

REG STATUS: N ENROLL: 0291 BIRTH: 0244 SEX: M AGENCY: M ADULT/YOUTH: A
POSITION: SA FINDERCODE: 50 PHONE: 0000000000 BULK: MAG-STATUS: S
REN DAT: 0192
TRANSFER FROM = CNCL: PGM/UNIT: SEQ: TRANSFER DATE:

MAGAZINES

---SOURCE---		PRICE	SUB	STRT	---COPIES---	ISSUES TO GO	AREAR	LAST LABEL	EXP				
TYPE	CNCL	P/UNT	CODE	TRM	DATE	FIRST	LAST	ORIG	TOTAL COUNT	PRINTED	DAT		
S				N	06	0391	0391	0591	04	004	00	1204	0192

PF2)DELETE PF12)MENU CLR)END
MEMBER DELETED FROM DATABASE SUCCESSFULLY